

ABSTRACT

Information is typically obtained from a relational database using a query in structured query language (SQL). An extension to the SQL standard is described which permits plotting the results of a query. SQL keywords are provided for specifying a format for graphing selected data, and syntax for recognizing those keywords, thereby causing the data to be presented as a graph according to the specified format. This extension of SQL maintains the syntax and style of conventional SQL queries. This permits automated systems, such as database driven websites, to issue extended SQL queries directly to a relational database and have the results returned as formatted graphical content.